

Message Text

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ORIGIN AID-15

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E.O. 11652: N/A GDS

TAGS:

SUBJECT: CONSORTIUM MEETING

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO ACTING IBRD RESREP
MR. ZIMMER VORHAUS FROM ERNIE STERN, IBRD VICE
PRESIDENT. QUOTE AAA I SPOKE TO AMBASSADOR THIS WEEKEND
TO INQUIRE WHETHER GOVERNMENT MIGHT WISH POSTPONE
CONSORTIUM MEETING. WHILE HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS, HE
SAID GOVERNMENT WISHES GIVE APPEARANCE OF BUSINESS AS
USUAL AND THEREFORE HE THOUGHT THEY WOULD PROBABLY NOT
WISH REQUEST POSTPONEMENT. I URGED HIM NONETHELESS TO
CONTACT GOVERNMENT SOONEST AND HE SAID THAT HE WOULD TRY
REACH FINANCE MINISTER ALTHOUGH TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS
DIFFICULT. BBB. TO SUPPLEMENT HIS EFFORTS, PLEASE SEEK
MEETING WITH MINFIN IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. MEETING AGAIN
WITH KAZI NOT LIKELY TO BE FRUITFUL BUT IF MINFIN NOT
AVAILABLE EVEN ON PHONE, GIVE MESSAGE TO KAZI. CCC.
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PAGE 02 STATE 087219

AS GOVERNMENT WILL APPRECIATE A NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF
CONSORTIUM CONCERNED THAT MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE
DURING SUCH UNSETTLED SITUATION. WHILE I RECOGNIZE
THAT CANCELLATION BY US OF CONSORTIUM MEETING MIGHT HAVE
UNWANTED DOMESTIC POLITICAL EFFECTS, I DO NOT BELIEVE
THIS CONCERN HAS EQUAL VALIDITY IF GOVERNMENT TOOK
INITIATIVE. THERE ARE, AFTER ALL, PERFECTLY VALID

REASONS WHY SENIOR OFFICIALS MIGHT HAVE OTHER THINGS ON THEIR MIND AT THE MOMENT. IF GOVERNMENT PREPARED TO REQUEST POSTPONEMENT, BELIEVE IT WOULD NOT BE DIFFICULT RESCHEDULE AROUND TIME OF INDIA CONSORTIUM MEETING WHICH SCHEDULED FOR FIRST WEEK JULY. IN ADDITION, WE COULD NOW CANVASS CONSORTIUM MEMBERS ABOUT THEIR AID INDICATIONS AND CONVEY RESULTS TO GOVERNMENT. DDD. AS GOVERNMENT MUST RECOGNIZE, RELEVANCE OF CONSORTIUM MEETING TO PLEDGES FOR THE CURRENT YEAR ALWAYS SMALL. OBJECTIVE OF MEETING IS TO PROVIDE ASSESSMENT ON BASIS OF WHICH JUDGEMENTS ON THEIR ASSISTANCE ARE MADE. HOLDING MEETING AT THIS TIME NOT LIKELY BENEFIT CURRENT YEAR AID PLEDGES AND MORE IMPORTANTLY LIKELY ADVERSELY AFFECT JUDGEMENTS ON FUTURE SUPPORT. EEE. SINCE DELEGATIONS WILL BE DEPARTING SHORTLY, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE HAVE RESPONSE WITHIN TWENTY FOUR HOURS. TELEX AND CALL SOONEST. REGARDS, STERN. UNQUOTE.
VANCE

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